



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/502,174	07/21/2004	Kornelis Antonie Schouhamer Immink	NL020043	1623
24737 7590 11/19/2007 PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			EXAMINER MAI, LAM T	
			ART UNIT 2819	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/19/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/502,174

Applicant(s)

SCHOUHAMER IMMINK,
KORNELIS ANTONIE

Examiner

LAM T. MAI

Art Unit

2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

This application does not contain an abstract of the disclosure as required by 37 CFR 1.72(b). An abstract on a separate sheet is required.

Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

- (1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
- (2) if an article, its method of making;
- (3) if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
- (4) if a mixture, its ingredients;
- (5) if a process, the steps.

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 1 needs to rewrite for more clarity between the preamble and steps of the claim. Each step needs to be listed clearly to avoid 112 problems. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 11 needs to rewrite for more clarity between the preamble and body of the claim. Each elements needs to be listed clearly to avoid 112 problems. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 13 needs to rewrite for more clarity between the preamble and body of the claim. Each step/element needs to be listed clearly to avoid 112 problems. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 17 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 17 needs to rewrite for more clarity between the preamble and mean of the claim. Each mean needs to be listed clearly to avoid 112 problems. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 1 is allowable if the claim is rewritten for more clarification of the claim as indicated above. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Limitation “.delivered code word is selected based on an additional criterion from the subset of code words excluding all code words not complying with said predetermined criterion and, in the event that a coding state of the second type has been established by the preceding code word, excluding all code words having a value of the predetermined parameter not corresponding to the established coding state of the

second type" is not taught or suggested in the prior art of record. Dependent claims 2-10 are allowable as well if claim 1 is allowed.

Claim 11 is allowable if the claim is rewritten for more clarification of the claim as indicated above. The following is a statement of reason for the indication of allowable subject matter. Limitation " m-to-n-bit converter (60) comprises means for providing for each information word an associated subset of code words comprising at least r second type of code words mutually differing in a predetermined way, and means for selecting a code word based on an additional criterion from the subset of code words excluding all code words not complying with said predetermined criterion and, in the event that a coding state of the second type has been established by the preceding code word, excluding all code words having a value of the predetermined parameter not corresponding to the established coding state of the second type" is not taught or suggested in the prior art of record. Dependent claim 12 is allowable as well if the claim 11 is allowed.

Claim 13 is allowable if the is rewritten for more clarification of the claim as indicated above. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Limitation "the preceding signal portion belongs to the group of the second type, excluding all signal portions having a value of the predetermined parameter not being associated with the respective information word, and the subset being associated to an information word and comprising at least r signal portions mutually differing in the value of the predetermined parameter" is not taught or

suggested in the prior art. Dependent claims 1-6 are allowable as well if the claim 13 is allowed.

Claim 17 is allowable if the rewritten for more clarification of the claim as indicated above. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Limitation "means for distinguishing the respective information word by evaluating a predetermined parameter of the following code word, characterized in that the converter comprises means for converting a code word selected from a subset of code words, the subset being associated to the information word and comprising at least r code words mutually differing in the value of the predetermined parameter" is not taught or suggested in the prior art. Dependent claim 18 is allowable as well if claim 17 is allowed.

Cited References

The prior art made of record and not replied upon is considered pertinent to application's disclosures. The cited references relate to instant application subject matter.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAM T. MAI whose telephone number is (571)272-1807. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Barnie Rexford can be reached on (571) 272-7492. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number:
10/502,174
Art Unit: 2819

Page 6

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Lam T. Mai
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2819